

**REMARKS**

The last Office Action has been carefully considered.

It is noted that claims 1, 3, 5-6, 14 and 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over the patent to Ma.

Also, claims 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112.

At the same time, the Examiner indicated that claims 2 and 4 are not rejected over the art.

The Examiner's indication of the allowability of claims 2 and 4 have been gratefully acknowledged.

In connection with this, claim 1 has been canceled and its features have been introduced into claims 2 and 4. The thusly amended claims 4 are now independent claims and they should be considered as being in allowable condition.

Claims 3, 5, 14, and 16 have been amended to depend on claim 2 and these claims, together with other dependent claims which depend on them are now in allowable condition as well.

In connection with the Examiner's formal rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, claims 7, 8 and 11 have been amended. It is believed that the grounds for the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112 should be considered as no longer tenable and should be withdrawn.

On the other hand, claims 12, 13 and 15 have been canceled.


Claim 18 was indicated as allowable, and it has been retained unchanged.

It is therefore believed that the present application now contains only allowable claims.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application is most respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place this case in condition for final allowance, then it is respectfully requested that such amendments or corrections be carried out by Examiner's Amendment, and the case be passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance, he is invited to telephone the undersigned (at 631-549-4700).

Respectfully submitted,



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